

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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54

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/112 W

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R 021355Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1518

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GW

SUBJECT: USITC INVESTIGATION INTO POSSIBLE UNFAIR  
COMPETITION IN THE IMPORTATION AND SALE  
OF TV RECEIVERS FROM JAPAN

REF: STATE 206627

1. EMBOFF MET WITH SEVERAL OFFICIALS OF ECON MINISTRY  
REGARDING IMPORTS OF JAPANESE COLOR TELEVISION RECEIVERS  
INTO FRG. OFFICIALS PROMISED FULL COOPERATION WITH ITC  
INVESTIGATORS, AND ARE IN PROCESS OF COLLECTING  
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TRADE STATISTICS FOR ITC STAFF MEMBERS USE. THEY

STATED, HOWEVER, THAT IMPORTS OF JAPANESE COLOR TV RECEIVERS INTO FRG EXTREMELY LOW, ACCOUNTING FOR NO MORE THAN 3 TO 4 PERCENT OF 1975 DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION. THIS STATISTIC APPLIES ONLY TO COMPLETELY MANUFACTURED UNITS. GERMANY IMPORTS SOME SUB-ASSEMBLIES AND COMPONENTS USED IN GERMAN BRAND-NAME RECEIVERS. ALSO ONE OF "GERMAN" MANUFACTURERS -- WEGA-RADIO -- IS SONY SUBSIDIARY. THIS MANUFACTURER, HOWEVER, IS ONE OF COUNTRY'S SMALLEST, SUPPLYING LESS THAN 5 PERCENT OF MARKET.

2. OFFICIALS ASSURED EMBOFF THAT THERE ARE NO QUOTAS OR "GENTLEMENS AGREEMENTS" LIMITING COLOR TV IMPORTS FROM JAPAN. THEY SUGGEST THAT MINISCULE SHARE OF DOMESTIC MARKET HELD BY JAPANESE IMPORTS DUE TO GERMAN PREFERENCE FOR GERMAN PRODUCTS, TRADITIONAL DISTRUST OF JAPANESE PRODUCTS GOING BACK DECADES TO EARLY JAPANESE ATTEMPTS TO CORNER CAMERA MARKET WITH INEXPENSIVE COPIES OF GERMAN DESIGNS, AND APPARENT LACK OF INTEREST ON PART OF JAPANESE IN SELLING ON LARGE SCALE IN FRG. PRICES OF THOSE FEW JAPANESE MODELS AVAILABLE HERE ARE WELL BELOW THOSE OF COMPARABLE GERMAN MODELS, AND SALES OF OTHER JAPANESE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, STEREO SYSTEMS, TAPE DECKS, PORTABLE RADIOS, ETC. ARE NOT INCONSIDERABLE. COLOR TV, AND BLACK/WHITE FOR THAT MATTER, SALES REMAIN VERY LIMITED.

3. WE ATTEMPTING SET UP MEETINGS WITH TV TRADE ASSOCIATION REPS FOR ITC STAFF MEMBERS. ECONMIN WARNS HOWEVER THAT GERMANS DO NOT TAKE JAPANESE COLOR TV THREAT SERIOUSLY, AND THUS IT UNLIKELY THEY WILL BE ABLE CONTRIBUTE MEANINGFULLY TO ITC STUDY. HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, INVESTIGATIONS, TELEVISION EQUIPMENT, TRADE CONTROLS, ANTIDUMPING LAW (TRADE)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 206627  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 APR 2004  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** USITC INVESTIGATION INTO POSSIBLE UNFAIR COMPETITION IN THE IMPORTATION AND SALE OF TV RECEIVERS FROM JAPAN  
**TAGS:** ETRD, GE, US, JA, USITC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006